

(b) Each carrier shall ensure that the information contained in its cost allocation manual is accurate. Carriers must update their cost allocation manuals at least annually, except that changes to the cost apportionment table and to the description of time reporting procedures must be filed at the time of implementation. Annual cost allocation manual updates shall be filed on or before the last working day of each calendar year. Proposed changes in the description of time reporting procedures, the statement concerning affiliate transactions, and the cost apportionment table must be accompanied by a statement quantifying the impact of each change on regulated operations. Changes in the description of time reporting procedures and the statement concerning affiliate transactions must be quantified in \$100,000 increments at the account level. Changes in cost apportionment tables must be quantified in \$100,000 increments at the cost pool level. The Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau may suspend any such changes for a period not to exceed 180 days, and may thereafter allow the change to become effective or prescribe a different procedure.

(c) The Commission may by order require any other communications common carrier to file and maintain a cost allocation manual as provided in this section.

[57 FR 4375, Feb. 5, 1992, as amended at 59 FR 46358, Sept. 8, 1994; 61 FR 50246, Sept. 25, 1996; 62 FR 39779, July 24, 1997; 65 FR 16335, Mar. 28, 2000; 67 FR 5702, Feb. 6, 2002; 67 FR 13229, Mar. 21, 2002]

§ 64.904 Independent audits.

(a) Each carrier required to file a cost allocation manual shall elect to either have an attest engagement performed by an independent auditor every two years, covering the prior two year period, or have a financial audit performed by an independent auditor every two years, covering the prior two year period. In either case, the initial engagement shall be performed in the calendar year after the carrier is first required to file a cost allocation manual.

(b) The attest engagement shall be an examination engagement and shall provide a written communication that ex-

presses an opinion that the systems, processes, and procedures applied by the carrier to generate the results reported pursuant to § 43.21(e)(2) of this chapter comply with the Commission's Joint Cost Orders issued in conjunction with CC Docket No. 86-111, the Commission's Accounting Safeguards proceeding in CC Docket No. 96-150, and the Commission's rules and regulations including §§ 32.23 and 32.27 of this chapter, and § 64.901, and § 64.903 in force as of the date of the auditor's report. At least 30 days prior to beginning the attestation engagement, the independent auditors shall provide the Commission with the audit program. The attest engagement shall be conducted in accordance with the attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, except as otherwise directed by the Chief, Enforcement Bureau.

(c) The biennial financial audit shall provide a positive opinion on whether the applicable date shown in the carrier's annual report required by § 43.21(e)(2) of this chapter present fairly, in all material respects, the information of the Commission's Joint Cost Orders issued in conjunction with CC Docket No. 86-111, the Commission's Accounting Safeguards proceeding in CC Docket No. 96-150, and the Commission's rules and regulations including §§ 32.23 and 32.27 of this chapter, and § 64.901, and § 64.903 in force as of the date of the auditor's report. The audit shall be conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, except as otherwise directed by the Chief, Enforcement Bureau. The report of the independent auditor shall be filed at the time that the carrier files the annual reports required by § 43.21(e)(2) of this chapter.

[67 FR 5702, Feb. 6, 2002, as amended at 67 FR 13229, Mar. 21, 2002]

§ 64.905 Annual certification.

A mid-sized incumbent local exchange carrier, as defined in § 32.9000 of this chapter, shall file a certification with the Commission stating that it is complying with § 64.901. The certification must be signed, under oath, by an officer of the mid-sized incumbent LEC, and filed with the Commission on an annual basis at the time that the

mid-sized incumbent LEC files the annual reports required by § 43.21(e)(2) of this chapter.

[67 FR 5702, Feb. 6, 2002]

Subpart J—International Settlements Policy and Modification Requests

§ 64.1001 Requests to modify international settlements arrangements.

(a) The procedures set forth in this rule apply to carriers that are required to file with the International Bureau, pursuant to § 43.51(e) of this chapter, requests to modify international settlement arrangements. Any operating agreement or amendment for which a modification request is required to be filed cannot become effective until the modification request has been granted under paragraph (e) of this section. If you must file a modification request, you may either file electronically or on paper. The electronic form requires you to submit the same information that is required in the paper filing, specified below. A modification request may be filed electronically on the Internet through the International Bureau Filing System (IBFS) or by paper. For information on filing your notification through IBFS, see part 1, subpart Y of this chapter, and the IBFS homepage at <http://www.fcc.gov/ibfs>.

(b) A modification request must contain the following information:

- (1) The applicable international service;
- (2) The name of the foreign telecommunications administration;
- (3) The present accounting rate (including any surcharges);
- (4) The new accounting rate (including any surcharges);
- (5) The effective date;
- (6) The division of the accounting rate; and
- (7) An explanation of any proposed modification(s) in the operating agreement with the foreign correspondent.

(c) A modification request must contain the following information:

- (1) The applicable international service;
- (2) The name of the foreign telecommunications administration;

(3) The present accounting rate (including any surcharges);

(4) The new accounting rate (including any surcharges);

(5) The effective date;

(6) The division of the accounting rate; and

(7) An explanation of the proposed modification(s) in the operating agreement with the foreign correspondent.

(d) A modification request must contain a notarized statement that the filing carrier:

(1) Has not bargained for, nor has knowledge of, exclusive availability of the new accounting rate;

(2) Has not bargained for, nor has any indication that it will receive, more than its proportionate share of return traffic; and

(3) Has informed the foreign administration that U.S. policy requires that competing U.S. carriers have access to accounting rates negotiated by the filing carrier with the foreign administration on a nondiscriminatory basis.

(e) An operating agreement or amendment filed under a modification request cannot become effective until the modification request has been granted under paragraph (g) of this section.

(f) Carriers must serve a copy of the modification request on all carriers providing the same or similar service to the foreign administration identified in the filing on the same day a modification request is filed.

(g) All modification requests will be subject to a twenty-one (21) day pleading period for objections or comments, commencing the date after the request is filed. If the modification request is not complete when filed, the carrier will be notified that additional information is to be submitted, and a new 21 day pleading period will begin when the additional information is filed. The modification request will be deemed granted as of the twenty-second (22nd) day without any formal staff action being taken: provided

(1) No objections have been filed, and

(2) The International Bureau has not notified the carrier that grant of the modification request may not serve the public interest and that implementation of the proposed modification must